

MSD Safety Committee Meeting 12/17/01 Minutes

Present (Research group in parentheses): J. W. Ager (Chair, Ager), J. Beeman (Asst. Chair, Haller), J. Seabury (EHS Liaison), M. Charnahan (Chemla), C. Weber (Orenstein), N. Markovic (Ross), M. Van Hove (Van Hove), V. Vreeland (Vreeland), H. Feick (Weber), F. Salmassi (B2 Manager), M. Holm (MSD EHS Administrator), D. Owen (B72 Manager), P. Ruegg (B62/66 Manager), M. Doeff (DeJonghe), D. Ah Tye (NCEM), C. Van Lienden (Hou), D. F. Ogletree (Salmeron), J. Kruzic (Ritchie), E. Saiz (Tomsia)

Absent: K. Jackson (CXRO), H. Chang (Chu), E. Bourret (Haller), R. Schoenlein (Shank), W. Swider (Liliental-Weber)

Groups without representatives: Bertozzi, Fadley, Chrzan/Morris, Somorjai

LBNL's Integrated Safety Management (ISM) Plan

- Joel Ager discussed the expectations of MSD Safety Committee within the lab's ISM plan and the reasons MSD received a "marginal" score from the Office of Assurance and Assessment (OAA) in the EH&S communication evaluation area.

Evaluation and discussion of MSD performance in selected EH&S areas in 2001

- MSD Training Policy and Program. MSD's performance in this area was judged to be excellent by OAA; no changes to the policies and program were suggested.
- Laboratory Self-Assessment Deficiency (LSAD) completion rate. Committee members expressed concern that some listed findings do not exist and therefore do not, in fact, have to be fixed. In this case the responsible person or PI should work with EHS (i.e. with John Seabury) to have the finding removed from the database. Concern was expressed that findings may be discovered at a rate faster than MSD resources can fix them. The use of division resources in the form of Peter Ruegg's time was said to be useful and appreciated. Marca Doeff volunteered to test the new LCATs system for tracking findings.
- MSD performance in hazardous waste management including SAA compliance rate and waste QA. The new MSD policy that requires formal transfer of hazardous waste and responsibilities for authorized work for employees/guests who leave the lab was presented. In one research group the policy of having all SAAs cleared out once every six months was deemed to be effective. Peter Ruegg's pre-inspection efforts were also deemed to be effective in improving SAA compliance. Doug Owen suggested that a system of color codes associated with specific quarters in the year might make the identification of overdue waste easier. Marca Doeff and John Seabury suggested that the MSD SAA signage should be e-mailed to all SAA custodians.

Lessons learned. Joel Ager discussed the following items

- Use of low-level radioactive materials (e.g. uranyl acetate)
- Reminder of need for authorization for work with biohazardous materials.

- Warning on aging/breakdown of quenching oil
- Proper use of metal recycling bins

Ergonomics

- John Seabury presented an overview of ergonomic injury rates in MSD. These type of injuries represent a high percentage of MSD's serious (i.e. OSHA recordable) injuries. The committee was charged with making some recommendations at the next committee meeting. A goal of zero ergonomic injuries per year was suggested. The costs of proper chairs and desks was discussed.

Action Items

- Safety Committee members to discuss hazardous waste compliance with their respective research groups and have concrete suggestions for improving compliance at the next Committee meeting.
- John Seabury to prepare an analysis of options for implementing an Ergonomics Program within the MS Division and to discuss the recommendations with Joel Ager and Jeff Beeman before the next Committee meeting.
- Safety Committee members to consider an MSD Ergonomics Program to be a target activity for the year and return to the next Committee meeting with:
 - Goal statement for the program
 - Suggestions for implementation

Next meeting

- The next meeting of the MSD safety committee will be 2/4/02 at 9:30 am. The meeting will be announced by e-mail and also on the lab Calendar system.